

**Rule 6.3 Membership In Legal Services Organization**  
**(Commission's Proposed Rule Adopted on November 13 – 14, 2015 – Clean Version)**

A lawyer may serve as a director, officer or member of a legal services organization, apart from the law firm\* in which the lawyer practices, notwithstanding that the organization serves persons\* having interests adverse to a client of the lawyer. The lawyer shall not knowingly\* participate in a decision or action of the organization:

- (a) if participating in the decision or action would be incompatible with the lawyer's obligations to a client under Rules 1.7 or 1.9, or Business and Professions Code § 6068(e)(1); or
- (b) where the decision or action could have a material adverse effect on the representation of a client of the organization whose interests are adverse to a client of the lawyer.

**Comment**

Lawyers should support and participate in legal service organizations. A lawyer who is an officer or a member of such an organization does not thereby have a client-lawyer relationship with persons\* served by the organization. However, there is potential conflict between the interests of such persons\* and the interests of the lawyer's clients. If the possibility of such conflict disqualified a lawyer from serving on the board of a legal services organization, the profession's involvement in such organizations would be severely curtailed.